GETTING ACQUAINTED WITH OUR PRESIDENTS

By GEORGE H. PICARD

Note of George Washington's biographers makes any record of the fact that at one period of attempt to learn to play the flute, and that his effort was so carnest and so long continued that he actually succeeded in memorizing an air from one of Gluck's early operas. In a letter written by one of the young daughters of Sir William Fairfax to a relative in England, the following mention ta Fade of the great Virginian's musical ambition:

"I must tell you that on yesterday Mr. Augustine Washington's young son came to us for a fortnight, bringing his flute, and last night he played an air from Gluck to my accompaniment on the harpsichord. I say truly that I never heard anything more metanchely, although I found it most trying to keep a straight face. The player had so little command of his instrument that I could not keep with him, and I give you my word that it was a sorry performance."

Nor has there ever been much said or written about Washington's literary

XIV .-- Our Presidents as Musicians and Authors.



resident, and while he was at dinner with a small party of intimate friends, among whom was Martin Van Buren. Fome one within the hearing of Andrew fackson began to tell of Jefferson's wonderful violin playing.

"As a boy I could have beaten him at that game," declared the old solitier, with his customary positiveness. I may not have been what you would term a violinist, but I could fiddly to beat any man in the State of North Carolina. I didn't know a note of music either, but anything that could be whistled I could fiddle."

"I should like to hear you play, Mr. Fresident," said a member of tae "Kitchen Cabinet," who felt that something was demanded after this assonishing revelation.

Old Hickory shock his head verset.

ishing revelation.

Old Hickory shook his head regret-fully. "Never again," he sighed. "I tried it one night in camp down in Louisians, Why, I couldn't even rosin the bow."

Louisians. Why, I couldn't even rosin the bow."

Jackson left no literary remains except a limited official correspondence in which he had only a triffing share. Martin Van Buren was not musical, but was the author of a fragmentary work; published five years after his death, entitled "An Inquiry into the Origin had Cause of Political Parties in the Uniter States." William Henry Harrison was neither musical nor literary, and John Tyler, although a man of scholarly tastes, left nothing from his pen beyond a collection of letters published after his death by his son resident Lyon Gardiner Tyler of William and Mary College, James K. Polk left a number of manuscripts which are now in the possession of the Chicago Historical Society, and his manuscript dlary may still be seen at the Lenox Library, New York City.

Of Zachary Taylor, Millard Fillmore and Franklin Pierca it may be affermed that no one of the three was either distinctively musical or literary in his tastes. Shortly after his retirement from the presidency James Buchanan published what appeared to be an explanation of his course during the trying months which preceded the breaking out of the Civil War. It was entitled. "Mr. Buchanan's Administration on the Eve of the Rehellion."

Abraham Lincoln's fondness

he never missed a musical entertain- neither is a musician in any true sense ment of any description during his of the term. long residence in Springfield, and that during his infrequent absences from home he made it a point to attend as many concerts as possible. During his single term in Congress he selzed the opportunity to hear such music the opportunity to near such music as was available in the national capital of those days, and after he moved into the White House he became the patron of all the professional musicians who came to town. He made no claim to be a critic, but admitted frankly that the singing of the littchinson family and of the popular evangelist Philip Philips appealed to him quite as powerful as did the more artistic vocalism of the famous operatic luminaries.

Lincoln the Master of a Distinctive

Title of next week's article: "Out Presidents as ex-Presidents."

BURKEVILLE

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Burkeville, Va., April 20.—Mrs. William J.
Strickler was hosters for the Book Club on Thursday. The High School teagiers were the guests of the club. Delicious re-Greshments were served.

Miss Perkins, of the Normal School, spent the week-end with Mrs. W. T. Woodhouse. The talks by the home farmers at the High School Friday were interesting and instructive.



Prevents Worry and Fear

T THE LAST MOMENT it was necessary to postpone the visit to relatives in a distant city. Anything short of a full explanation would cause worry and fear. What could be done?

The Long Distance Bell Telephone solved the problem. A personal talk cleared up the situation, dispelled worry and completed plans for a visit at a later date.

In every day, personal affairs the Long Distance Bell Telephone can save you worry, inconvenience and loss of time. Why not try it?

By the way, have you a Bell Telephone?



Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company of Virginia

AII Steels Guaranteed FREE

RUST

The Test of Time

More than a half century of corset making, following "glove-fitting" ideas exclusively our own, has given to

THOMSON'S "GLOVE-FITTING CORSETS

the acme of durability combined with restful ease to the wearer. No other corsets have survived the test of three generations of American women-no other corsets have reached every corner of the world with their popularity. There must be a reason-we call it the

"Glove-Fitting" reason At all dealers \$1. to \$5.

GEORGE C. BATCHELLER & CO. Chloago San Francis